# News release

## Health concerns rise as heatwave continues

3 July 2006

The Met Office has today issued further warnings of high temperatures affecting much of the UK, and has raised the Heat-Health alert to Level 3, the first time this level has been reached since the service was started in 2004.

High temperatures can have dramatic effects on people's health, and the Met Office works closely with the Department of Health and the National Assembly of Wales to help vulnerable groups, especially the elderly and the young, deal with the impacts of hot weather. A Level 3 alert is triggered when it is confirmed that a major heatwave will occur.

Severe thunderstorms and heavy downpours are also expected through this week, with the potential for localised flooding, disruption to electricity supplies, damage from large hailstones and strong gusty winds around the storms.

These storms are expected to affect different parts of the country at varying times.

Latest forecast for the UK

Met Office Heat-Health watch

UK warnings of severe weather

UK regional five-day UV index forecast

Advice during periods of heat and sun

Department of Health

NHS Direct

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